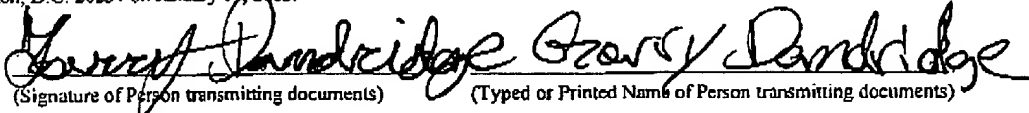


PATENT  
Docket No. 297912003900#101A  
10-1-03

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(Signature of Person transmitting documents) (Typed or Printed Name of Person transmitting documents)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

PLETZER

Serial No.: 09/826,267

Filing Date: April 4, 2001

For: APPARATUS AND TECHNIQUE FOR  
UNIFORM LOADING OF  
ENDOLUMINAL PROSTHESIS

Examiner: D. Willse

Group Art Unit: 3738

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits of this application, please amend the specification and claims as indicated.